



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

JUN 03 1999

Mr. William Augustine  
CECW-B  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

**Re: Former Harshaw Chemical Company Site**

Dear Mr. Augustine:

This letter is in follow-up to several phone conversations between Department of Energy (DOE) and Army Corps of Engineers staff and counsel concerning the potential eligibility of the former Harshaw Chemical Company Site for inclusion in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). This site is currently owned by Chevron.

Section III.D.1. of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DOE and the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the program administration and execution of FUSRAP provides that DOE:

- a. Shall perform historical research and provide a FUSRAP eligibility determination, with historical references, as to whether a site was used for activities which supported the Nation's early atomic energy program;
- b. Shall provide USACE with the determination, a description of the type of processes involved in the historical activities at the site, the geographic boundaries of those activities (as reflected by documentation available to DOE), and the potential radioactive and/or chemical contaminants at the site; and
- c. Shall maintain records of determination of eligibility and other files, documents and records associated with the site.

In accordance with the MOU, DOE has performed historical research regarding the former Harshaw Chemical Company Site in Cleveland, Ohio and has concluded that this site was used for activities which supported the Nation's early atomic energy program. Historical references supporting this conclusion are attached.



The former Harshaw Chemical Company site is located at 1000 Harvard Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio. The main portion of the facility includes over 30 buildings on about 15 acres of land. The total facility is over 40 acres. That portion of the Harshaw facility dedicated to production under MED/AEC contracts involved three buildings: Building G1 (formerly known as Plant C), the foundry building and Building K1 where analytical work was performed. MED/AEC-owned equipment and material were stored in these and other buildings on the site during the latter period of Harshaw involvement in or support to MED/AEC programs. It is our understanding that Harshaw may have also performed work at the facility involving radioactive materials for commercial purposes.

Equipment and raw materials required for performance under contracts with MED/AEC were furnished by the MED/AEC. There were at least eleven contracts between the Harshaw Chemical Company and MED/AEC. These contracts were primarily for the design, construction and operation of a plant for production of feed materials for gaseous-diffusion (K-25), thermal diffusion (S-50) and electromagnetic (Y-12) processes; to furnish large quantities of catalyst for heavy water (P-9) production; and to provide other chemicals for various MED/AEC programs. In general, the contracts called for the production of brown oxide (uranium dioxide), green salt (uranium tetrafluoride), black oxide (sodium urinate) and uranium hexafluoride (code named C-616). Radioactive residues on the site can be attributed to production operations conducted by Harshaw under contracts with the AEC.

Accordingly, this site would be eligible for inclusion in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program if the Corps determines, under Section III.D.2 of the MOU that response action under CERCLA is required to address FUSRAP-related contamination at the site.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

  
James J. Fiore,  
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Environmental Restoration

Attachments